

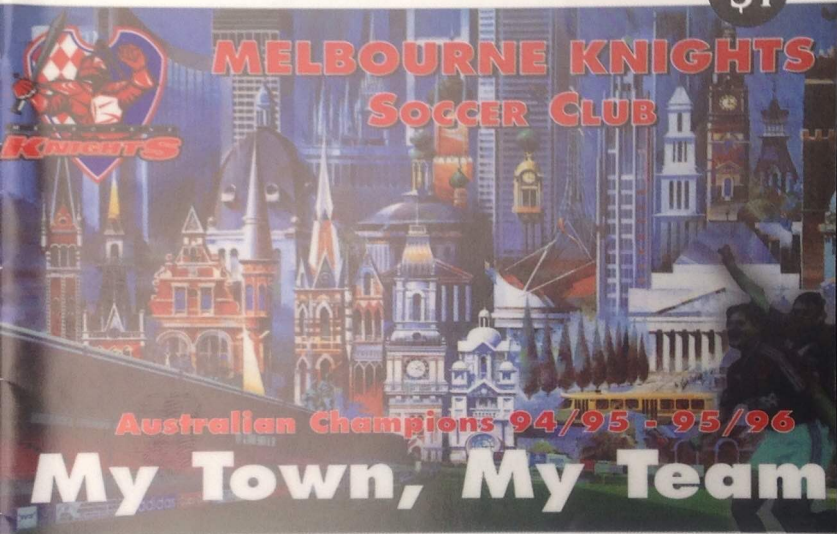
'OUR TOWN, OUR TEAM'

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS OFFICIAL MATCH-DAY MAGAZINE

VOL. 1, No. 7 (Season 1997/98)

Cover Price

\$1



Sunday, January 18, 1998

Ericsson Cup Round Sixteen

Melbourne Knights v South Melbourne

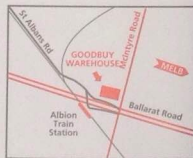
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Melbourne Knights

Sunday, January 18, 1998

Ericsson Cup Round Sixteen

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS V SOUTH MELBOURNE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the season's biggest game.

No matter what position either team is in on the ladder there is nothing like a Melbourne Knights - South Melbourne game.

This one is extra special for one of our greatest-ever players as skipper ANDREW MARTH is celebrating playing 250 league games, a feat he achieved at Newcastle last week, but which we celebrate today.

I know all Knights supporters adore him, whilst other supporters hold him in the highest possible regard.

Andrew, thank-you for all soccer supporters.

Let the derby begin.

Your president,
 Steve Mandekic

A WORD FROM THE COACH

This week - and for the first time this season - our team has been rewarded for all our hard work in training and matches by moving into the top six.

The victory over a resolute Falcons team made for an excellent weekend. Our opponents this weekend are neighbors and high scoring rivals South Melbourne.

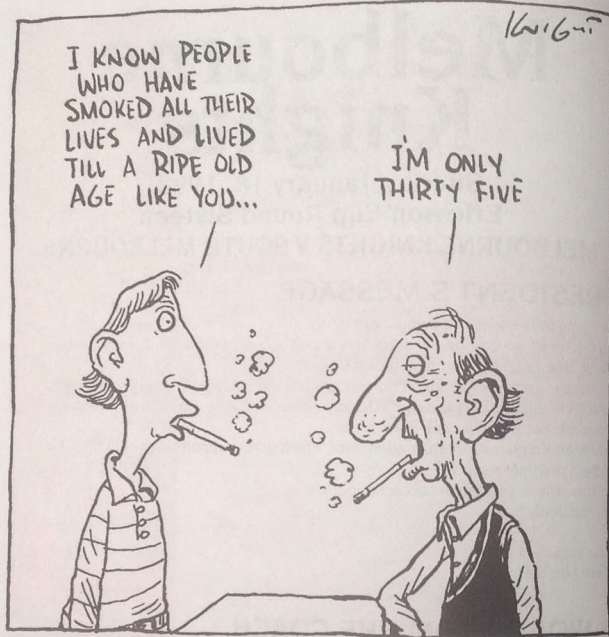
It will be a difficult game.

But we have worked a plan in training and if the Knights players are disciplined and refuse to be beaten it is quite feasible we can topple the Blues.

In spite of the loss of John Didulica and Alan Davidson, and a midfield who can only boast a handful of games between them, we have been holding it together.

Enjoy the match.

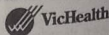
Ken Worden
 Manager/Coach



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CAPTAIN COURAGE

"You just don't upset him, that's all." That is how one long-time opponent of Andrew Marth views his duels with our skipper, the man they know as 'Stabber'. "Generally he's not a dirty player, but he's the toughest bastard I've ever known on the field," he continued. "I mean, he can play as well, his record tells you that. "But the one thing about Marth is that once you've played against him you know you've been in a game. "When he's in there there is no doubt the Knights are a better team." Ironically, Marth celebrates his 250th Ericsson Cup game (officially, he played his 250 at Newcastle last week) against the club he almost joined a few years back, South Melbourne. It is another tribute to Marth that he faithfully stayed here to serve the Knights and another good reason why all Knights fans should revere him as one of this club's all-time greats. Less known are the sacrifices he has made for the Knights, like the time he played in a finals series with bruising from thigh to waist and in the type of pain that would put lesser players in hospital. And given his stellar career at club level it is a damning testimonial against recent Australian coaches that he has not got the chance he deserves at Socceroo level. All hail a great champion in Andrew Marth, for 250 inspirational games.

The Marth files:

Age - 28 (Debut at 17, in round 19, 1986 as sub for Sunshine in 1-0 win over M. Knights at Chaplin Reserve). **Games** - 250 (63 with Sunshine George Cross). **Goals** - 36 (2 with Sunshine George Cross). **Finals** - 15 (in seven finals series). **Goals** - 3 (all in grand finals, an Ericsson Cup record). **Grand finals** - 5 (90/91, 91/92, 93/94, 94/95 & 95/96). **Championships** - 2 (94/95 and 95/96). **National Cup wins** - 1 (94/95). **Knights captain** - From mid-year 94/95 to now. **Other honours** - Marsden Medal in 1995/96 (for grand final best on ground).

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Melbourne Knights Program of Matches 1997-98 Season

ROUND	DATE	HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM	VENUE
1	5/10/97	Melbourne Knights 0	Gippsland Falcons 1	Knights Stadium
2	12/10/97	South Melbourne Lakers 2	Melbourne Knights 2	Bob Jane Stadium
3	19/10/97	Melbourne Knights 1	Wollongong City 0	Knights Stadium
4	26/10/97	Perth Glory 3	Melbourne Knights 2	Perth Oval
5	2/11/97	Melbourne Knights 0	Sydney United 0	Knights Stadium
6	9/11/97	Carlton 1	Melbourne Knights 1	Optus Oval
8	23/11/97	Brisbane Strikers 1	Melbourne Knights 2	Suncorp Stadium
9	30/11/97	Canberra Cosmos 1	Melbourne Knights 1	Bruce Stadium
10	7/12/97	Melbourne Knights 4	Newcastle Breakers 1	Knights Stadium
11	14/12/97	UTS Olympic 2	Melbourne Knights 1	Bellmore Oval
12	21/12/97	Melbourne Knights 2	Marconi Fairfield 1	Knights Stadium
13	28/12/97	West Adelaide 2	Melbourne Knights 1	Hindmarsh
14	4/01/98	Melbourne Knights 1	West Adelaide 0	Knights Stadium
15	11/01/98	Gippsland Falcons 1	Melbourne Knights 2	Falcons Park
16	18/01/98	Melbourne Knights	South Melbourne Lakers	Knights Stadium
17	8/02/98	Wollongong City	Melbourne Knights	Brandon Park
18	15/02/98	Melbourne Knights	Perth Glory	Knights Stadium
19	22/02/98	Sydney United	Melbourne Knights	Edensor Park
20	01/03/98	Melbourne Knights	Carlton	Knights Stadium
7	04/03/98	Melbourne Knights	Adelaide City	Knights Stadium
21	08/03/98	Adelaide City	Melbourne knights	Hindmarsh
22	15/03/98	Melbourne Knights	Brisbane Strikers	Knights Stadium
23	23/03/98	Melbourne Knights	Canberra Cosmos	Knights Stadium
24	29/03/98	Newcastle Breakers	Melbourne Knights	Topper Stadium
25	05/04/98	Melbourne Knights	UTS Olympic	Knights Stadium
26	12/04/98	Marconi Fairfield	Melbourne Knights	Bosley Park



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CLUBHOUSE

Lot 2, Somers St., Sunshine North, VIC 3020
Tel - 03 9312 3584 Fax - 03 9312 3703

COACH

Ken Worden (1st year)
Also coached Knights in 1990/91

HOME

Knights Stadium, Somers St., North Sunshine, VIC
Tel - 03 9312 3703

LAST YEAR

6th
15th - 1984 to 1997/98

YEARS IN NSL

HONOURS

Champions - 1994/95 and 1995/96
Runners up - 1990/91, 1991/92 and 1993/94
Minor premiers - 1990/91, 1991/92, 1993/94 and 1994/95
Cup winners - 1994/95
Cup runners up - 1984
Finalists - 1984, 1985, 1989, 1989/90, 1990/91, 1991/92, 1993/94, 1994/95, 1995/96 and 1996/97

GAMES RECORD GOALS RECORD REC GLS IN SEAS RECORD WIN RECORD DEFEAT

Josip Biskic (282)
Ivan Kelic (47)
Mark Viduka (18) in 1994/95
8-1 v Wollongong Mac (League) in 1990/91
0-6 v Adelaide City (League) in 1990/91

SOUTH MELBOURNE LAKERS

CLUBHOUSE

PO Box 1349, South Melbourne, VIC 3205
Tel - 03 9645 9797 Fax - 03 9645 9796

COACH

Angie Postecoglou (3rd year)

HOME

Bob Jane Stadium, 25 Albert Rd., Drive, Albert Park, VIC
3206 Tel - 03 9645 9797
3rd

LAST YEAR

YEARS IN NSL

HONOURS

22nd - 1977 to 1997/98
Champions - 1984 and 1990/91
Champions (South Div) - 1984
Runners up - 1981 Minor premiers - 1992/93
Minor premiers (South Div) - 1984 and 1985
Cup winners - 1989/90 and 1995/96 Cup runners up - 1987
Finalists - 1978, 1980, 1984, 1985, 1988, 1989/90, 1990/91, 1991/92, 1992/93, 1993/94, 1994/95 and 1996/97

GAMES RECORD GOALS RECORD REC GLS IN SEAS RECORD WIN RECORD DEFEAT

Steve Blair (338)
Paul Trimballi (83)
Doug Brown (22) in 1984
7-0 v Newcastle Rosebud (League) in 1984
0-7 v Marconi (Final) in 1992/93

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS

No.	Name	Pos	Birthdate	Games	Goals
1	Vilson Knezevic	G	19/10/75	10	0
2	Ante Kovacevic	D	13/6/74	74	1
3	Ivan Jolic	D	18/7/74	13	0
4	Ransford Banini	D	10/10/73	69	3
5	Zoran Markovski	D	5/11/72	95	3
6	Andrew Marth (capt)	U	10/2/69	250	36
7	Ross Greer	U	23/9/65	3	0
8	Damon Collina	F		1	0
9	Adrian Cervinski	F	14/7/73	80	39
10	Tom Pondeljak	U	8/1/76	68	23
11	Alan Davidson	S	1/6/60	322	15
12	Ice Kutlesovski	F	9/4/74	61	19
13	Damian Vojtek	U	27/4/75	61	5
14	Ivan Kelic	F	29/12/68	213	88
15	Dragi Nastevski	D	26/1/77	37	0
17	Zeljko Susa	D	13/7/78	7	1
18	John Didulica	D	28/1/75	15	2
19	Ante Deak	M	8/7/78	22	0
20	Joe Didulica	G	14/10/77	34	0
21	Joey Rahja	F	23/9/77	1	0
24	Mijo Trupkovic	F	21/6/77	19	0

SOUTH MELBOURNE

No.	Name	Pos	Birthdate	Games	Goals
1	Michael Petkovic	G	16/7/76	60	0
2	Steve Iosifidis	M	28/12/73	49	0
3	Fausto De Amicis	S	26/6/68	158	4
4	Nick Orlic	D	6/8/70	112	10
5	Con Blatsis	D	6/7/77	55	4
6	David Clarkson	M	1/2/68	128	12
7	Steve Panopoulos	M	23/6/75	94	17
8	Vaughen Coveny	F	12/12/71	135	38
9	Paul Trimballi (capt)	F	25/2/69	304	87
10	Michael Curcija	F	27/6/77	53	15
11	Bill Damianos	M	18/4/77	77	11
12	Con Boutsianis	U	27/12/71	151	51
13	Jason Polak	M	9/1/68	188	16
15	Goran Lozanovski	M	11/1/74	130	10
16	Tansel Baser	D	17/4/78	41	0
17	John Anastasiadis	M	13/8/68	37	6
18	Robert Liparoti	D	2/4/78	5	0
19	George Goutzioulis	M	18/1/78	11	0
20	Chris Jones	G		1	0
22	Frank Catalano			9	0
	own goals				1



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1997/98 ERICSSON CUP LADDER

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	gl.diff.	Pt
Sydney United	15	9	5	1	25	11	+14	32
South Melbourne	15	8	5	2	37	22	+15	29
Adelaide City	12	8	0	4	26	14	+12	24
Carlton SC	15	6	6	3	18	14	+4	24
Wollongong City	14	7	1	6	31	15	+16	22
Melbourne Knights	14	6	4	4	20	16	+4	22
Perth Glory	15	6	4	5	19	21	-2	22
Adelaide Sharks	14	6	2	6	22	22	even	20
Marconi Fairfield	15	5	4	6	15	21	-6	19
UTS Olympic	15	5	3	7	16	27	-11	18
Gippsland Falcons	15	4	5	6	10	17	-7	17
Brisbane Strikers	15	4	0	11	11	22	-11	12
Canberra Cosmos	15	2	6	7	19	32	-13	12
Newcastle Breakers	15	1	5	9	15	30	-15	8

ERICSSON CUP SCOREBOARD

LAST WEEKEND'S RESULTS

Sydney Utd	4	Canberra	1
Marconi	1	UTS Olympic	1
Gippsland	1	Melbourne Knights	2
South Melbourne	5	Brisbane	1
Wollongong	2	Adelaide City	1
Perth Glory	0	Carlton	0
Adelaide Sharks	3	Newcastle	1

THIS WEEKEND'S ROUND SIXTEEN GAMES

Fri	Newcastle	v	Gippsland
Sat	Brisbane	v	Wollongong
Sat	Canberra	v	Marconi
Sun	Sydney Utd	v	Carlton
Sun	Melbourne Knights	v	South Melbourne
Sun	Adelaide City	v	Perth Glory
Sun	UTS Olympic	v	Adelaide Sharks

NEXT WEEKEND (ROUND 17)

Sat	Carlton	v	Canberra
Sun	Sydney Utd	v	Adelaide City
Sun	Wollongong	v	Melbourne Knights
Sun	Perth Glory	v	Brisbane Strikers
Sun	South Melbourne	v	Newcastle
Sun	Gippsland	v	UTS Olympic
Sun	Adelaide Sharks	v	Marconi

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BADGE WITH NEW LOGO (MATERIAL)	\$4	BADGE WITH NEW LOGO (IRON ON)	\$2
ADIDAS TRACK SUITS	\$135	KEY RINGS	\$1.50

* An extensive range of new 'COVO' playing tops (home and away) as well as track suits, shirts and club scarves are now available.

SENIOR TEAM REPORT

please be advised that what is now shaping as one of our most important games of the season - against ADELAIDE CITY - has been scheduled for WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4 (Kick-off 7:30pm). This re-scheduled round seven clash against one of this club's fiercest traditional rivals now looms as critical in the battle to shape the top six, following the Knights recent consecutive wins which have edged us into the top six bracket for the first time this season.

The run of successive wins - the first time the Knights have won two on end since rounds 18 and 19 last season - started two weeks ago with a successful, if uninspired mission here at home against the Adelaide Sharks.

The Knights started like a whirlwind once again and got the go-ahead goal on 9 minutes when Zjelko Susa scored his first ever Ericsson Cup goal. Unfortunately we let go our hold on the game once again, but successfully held out against an Adelaide Sharks team minus top gun Pablo Cardozo. The 1-0 scoreline nearly became 1-1 in the dying minutes when goalkeeper Joe Didulica made a rare mistake in dropping the ball, only for Shark Jose Iriate miss what should have been a gift.

The Knights followed up last weekend with a solid win against a defensive Gippsland Falcons team, 2-1 at Falcons Park.

Top scorer Tom Pondeljak gave us yet another early lead, with the Falcons equalising on the hour before our own super sub, Ice Kutlesovski grabbed a vital winner in the final ten minutes.

JUNIOR REPORT

Our apologies, however due to publication deadlines during the festive season we cannot publish our usual report on the progress of the youth team.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR OUR TEAM, OUR TOWN

THERE IS NO BETTER WAY TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE MELBOURNE KNIGHTS THAN TO BECOME A CLUB MEMBER. AND THERE IS NO BETTER TIME TO CONSIDER MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEAGUE'S MOST SUCCESSFUL CLUB THAN IN THE NEW YEAR.

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SHOW YOUR SUPPORT BY BECOMING A MEMBER

TODAY'S OPPONENT -

**SOUTH
MELBOURNE**

No mystery about this team for the Melbourne Knights players or supporters, as these two clubs have shared a fierce cross town rivalry for more than a decade in a duel which is now some 40 games old and includes several memorable finals. This year South Melbourne is one the championship favorites, for good reason. In the top six since round one, the Lakers boast the league's most prolific offence, with a multi-pronged attack which has thus far produced 12 different goalscorers.

HEAD TO HEAD

These two clubs have met 31 times in the Ericsson Cup regular season, with the Lakers leading the all-time series with 13 wins, 11 draws and seven losses overall.

FORM

The Knights come into this game with two straight wins and just two defeats in their last eleven starts. The Lakers went undefeated in their first nine and have lost just twice overall.

AT THIS GROUND

South Melbourne has come to face the Knights at Knights Stadium in the regular season 10 times, for three wins, two draws and five losses

COACHING HEAD TO HEAD

Ken Worden and Angie Postecoglou have never coached against each other in Ericsson Cup competition.

LAST TIME HERE

The Knights were beaten here 4-1 by South Melbourne in the first leg of the 1996/97 elimination final.

LAST MEETING

The Knights came from 2-0 down at half time to draw 2-2 at Bob Jane Stadium in round two.

KNIGHTS AT HOME RECORD

The Knights are 4-1-1 here this season.

LAKERS AWAY

The Lakers are 3-2-2 away from home this season.



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